

But there is no inconsistency on our part. We didn't say that was the wrong thing to do. The inconsistency is the administration that says yes to \$30 billion to Bear Stearns and no to \$15 billion here.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. All time for debate on the amendment has expired.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. McCOTTER).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. ALTMIRE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 7 printed in House Report 110-621.

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 7 offered by Mr. ALTMIRE:

Page 36, after line 2, insert the following new section:

**SEC. 15. INELIGIBILITY OF ILLEGAL ALIENS FOR ASSISTANCE.**

Aliens who are not lawfully present in the United States shall be ineligible for financial assistance under this Act, as provided and defined by section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 1436a). Nothing in this Act shall be construed to alter the restrictions or definitions in such section 214.

Page 36, line 3, strike "15" and insert "16".

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1174, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ALTMIRE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. ALTMIRE. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chairman, I offer this amendment to the Neighborhood Stabilization Act to ensure that illegal immigrants are not eligible for the financial assistance we're providing today to individuals adversely affected by the housing crisis.

Section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act governs the participation of noncitizens in certain HUD programs. It requires valid documentation from the beneficiary, verification of that documentation by the appropriate entity, and outlines who may and may not be eligible for financial assistance.

Under section 214, illegal immigrants are not eligible for financial assistance. Let me repeat that: Under section 214, illegal immigrants are not eligible for financial assistance. And my amendment makes certain that section 214 rules apply to the new programs authorized by the Neighborhood Stabilization Act that we are debating tonight.

With the housing crisis and economic downturn impacting the lives of hard-working Americans throughout the country, we need to make sure that targeted, fiscally responsible assistance that we are providing goes only to law-abiding citizens.

As responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars, it is our responsibility to en-

sure that every penny is spent wisely and is not used to benefit any illegal immigrants in any way.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment.

Madam Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Chairman, I seek time in opposition, although I am not opposed to the gentleman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentlewoman from West Virginia is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAPITO. I would just like to express my support for his amendment. I think we have had this debate on the floor many times. And I want to say that we want to assure the American public, I think it's always good to reassure the American public that taxpayer funds are not going to help people here who have entered our country illegally and remain here illegally.

I would like to see, as we move forward in this debate on this and other bills, that we tighten down the types of identification that are full proof, that can be used to certify the legality of whoever the resident is residing, whether it's in public housing or in other taxpayer-funded opportunities.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. All time for debate on the amendment has expired.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ALTMIRE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania will be postponed.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE) having assumed the chair, Ms. BALDWIN, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5818) had come to no resolution thereon.

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CHARLTON HESTON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 1091, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr.

CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1091, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2419, FOOD AND ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2007**

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to instruct at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Cantor moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 2419 be instructed not to agree to the provisions contained in section 12808 of the Senate amendment (relating to qualified forestry conservation bonds).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR) and the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise around this motion to instruct, which is centered on an objection that I have in the Senate-passed farm bill around one particular provision that certainly raises a lot of questions in my mind and should raise a lot of questions in the minds of my colleagues.

In the bill there is, without question, a \$200 million earmark that benefits one wealthy landowner. Section 12808 in H.R. 2419, as passed by the Senate, provides for a tax credit bond program. There is a scheme in this bill that was so narrowly crafted that the bonds authorized thereunder can only be used for the acquisition of one, just one, piece of land in the entire country. This piece of land happens to lie predominantly in the State of Montana and is owned by timber giant Plum Creek. According to press reports, the Nature Conservancy would be allowed to issue \$500 million in bonds under this bill and then use the proceeds to purchase the land from the timber giant. Even more egregious is that the provision does not even appear to require the protection of a single additional tree or a single additional fish. If this isn't a tax earmark, I don't know what is. Mr. Speaker, this is the "bridge to nowhere" of the farm bill.

Now, I know my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will argue that the Montana bond provision does not fit the definition of an earmark under House rules. Their reasoning will be that many taxpayers will potentially own the Montana bonds and then get tax credits from the Federal Government. But make no mistake. This provision is designed to facilitate one land sale by one landowner.